

THE
NARRATIVE
OF
Mr. John Fitz-Gerrald,
Late of the Order of
S^t. FRANCIS,
In the Kingdom of
IRELAND.

Wherein is Contained

- 1 Several things relating to the Irish Plot, Managed by *Plunket* the Titular Arch-Bishop of that Kingdom (and now committed to the Goal of *Newgate*.)
- 2 The Intrigue of *Sympson Tonge*, to Invalidate the Testimony of his Father Doctor *Israel Tonge*, Doctor *Oates*, and other of the King's Evidences.
- 3 An Account of Captain *Elie* and their cursed Contrivance to undermine the Protestant Religion.
- 4 The strange and wonderful manner of his Conversion from Popery, with many other Remarkable Passages.

All Published for general Satisfaction.

L O N D O N,

Printed for *Richard Janeway*. MDCLXXXI.

T O T H E
R E A D E R.

Courteous Reader,

I Have herein endeavoured for your Satisfaction, to let you see the Treachery and Deceit of the World, and to our woful Experience the Long Reign of the old Man Satan, who was the only chief Instrument of depriving our Fore-Father Adam of the great Privileges and Enjoyments he had in the Garden of Eden, and the Glory he had in his first State of Purity and Innocency, but Satan through his Envy and Malice, promised him Bribes, the which Bribes were, that if he had eaten the forbidden Fruit, he should be capable of Good and Evil. Secondly, he tempted Judas to betray Christ, and sell him for thirty pieces of silver. And dear Reader, by these and several other Circumstances we see what Efficacy Bribery hath, and what Iniquity and Wickedness ensues from it.

I must acknowledge I am not in a Capacity to grace this Paper with painted Eloquence, or deciphered Phrases, but notwithstanding the purpose that I designed it to, I suppose you are as concerned to know it as I am; for it is most certain, that the Serpent lurketh about seeking whom to devour, which is a Caution to us to have a care whom we trust, though indeed sometimes we may mistrust honest Folks, and entertain Knaves,

as we find it often falls out so, but not to hinder your-
coming to the reading of this my Endeavours for your
satisfaction. Blame me not for wanting Elegancy, for
Sincerity is better than Oratory. I hope you will receive
it kindly of me, to trace my purpose, as well as I could,
and excuse my weakness and errors, in matter of Pen-
ning Orthography or Sence, for it may be my Expecta-
tion will not be frustrated, but some that read this will
be Charitable, and receive plain truth more desirable and
welcome, than false Philosophy; for I am sure of the
two Comparisons, Truth will take place, as it is said
Omnia vincit Veritas. I will leave you to your se-
rious Consideration, and charitable Opinion of me, and
take me as you please, but I shall remain a Friend for
England, and so Farewell.

H. P.

A
SATISFACTORY RELATION
OF

Three Persons,

Who thought upon three respective, several Accounts, to perswade the King, Parliament, Council, and Subjects, of these three Nations, no not adbibit Credit, or Belief, to any or all of the Discoverers of the late Popish Plot, which by divine Providence, hath been Discovered, to the undeniable and ample view of the World.

AND thus, the above three mentioned Persons, (whose names are, as followeth) (Captain Elie, Simpson Tonge, and John Crawley:) laid about their three several Designs; The First Captain Elie, whose Design, was, and is, to propagate, the Popish Interest, and also his own Exaltation, and Fortune. Secondly Simpson Tonge, whose design was, to be revenged of his Father, as I shall give an account of more at large, in the ensuing Treatise.

And thirdly, John Crawly who through distress, and want, and also his desire, and inclination to serve the Popish Party, was by that, and the Consultation and Combination he had with the other two, perswaded that he could serve the Church of Rome, and purchase for himself a better Interest of Livelyhood, than he had before, which as is manifestly

known, by his bare Garb, and spare Diet, he had no Livelyhood at all.

Having plainly laid down before you the Reasons, and Designs, the above three mentioned Persons, proposed to themselves, if they could by their audacious Subornation, disanul the King's Evidences, push off the King, Council, Parliament, and Countrey, of these three Nations, from believing the real being of any such thing as an intended Plot by the Papists, kindled against his Majesties Person, his Laws and Government, or Church-Settlement, and Establishment of *England*. But instead of that they would first assert, that the Popish Party in these three Kingdoms are the best Subjects, and what they are imputed with, of an insurrectious Conspiracy, or Plot, sprung first from Inveteracy, Malice, and Hatred, and also an old Root of Antipathy, that the Papists assert the Protestants to harbour for them. These I say are the strongest Grounds, the foresaid three Persons, have for their firmest Foundations, to carry on such Presumptuous, audacious and false Undertakings, to contradict, and invalidate the King's prudent and wise Understanding, as also the Great Parliament of *England*, and the most Honourable Privy-Council, who to any mans rational understanding, are Persons of incomparable Prudence, Wisdom, and Learning, as that they would not undervalue their said several worthy Faculties and unparalell'd Understanding, and likewise their Christian Principle, as to give Credit to any uncertain hearsayings, nor vain blasts of false Informations, but their great Wisdom leads them narrowly to search and dive into the depth of all Causes, that come before them to be tryed. They are so careful, how to pass their Judgment, as that they try the very foundation, of the Kings Evidences, how? and in what measure, and in what years, and in what times of the year, the Evidences became acquainted with the first, and the whole summary agitation of the Popish Plot.

And if they find by the Evidences, Instances, and Circumstances, that they have truth on their side, by several Informations, Depositions, and Confessions, that they make unto several persons, distinctly and diversly, or in divers places;

ces; the Lords before whom these examinations and Depositions are taken, do compare one Confession to another, and proceed accordingly, and accordingly place their Instances. This through and ample search the King, Parliament, Council, and subordinate Magistrates, through all Causes that come to be tryed before them, so that thereupon, it is a great Presumption, and a contumelious Incredulity, for any person or persons whatsoever to go about to invalidate and contradict, what the said Lords or Subordinate Magistrates do upon well grounded and certain Instances, confirm and acknowledge to be truth. And therefore their Tryals in such Causes, and in many inferiour Causes, in any matter relating to the Popish Plot, their approbation of it passeth as is above mentioned, so that no particular Cause is winked at, but is tryed as the Gold in the Furnace, which implies that people of so great Wisdom, as the Governour, and Governours of these three Kingdoms are, who narrowly search the truth of all things before they pass it by as credited or contradicted. So that we have more reason to accept and receive for currant what they confirm, than what three false Suborners would fain blow up unto our understanding to the contrary, whose Designs, Intents, and Purposes are as above cited, and as I shall more amply give you an account of. These said three Suborned Witnesses that falsely, and contumeliously, contradict the King's Evidences, who passed through such Purificatory of Tryals, as they have done.

I say it is very hard if such Enormities, committed against King and Government, should pass without Correction. Now I must turn to give you an account of the said three Suborned Witnesses, or Evidences, whose names are above cited. I am acquainted with two of them, but one whose name is *Elie*, is a stranger to me, but I find by a relative account, I have had of him, how he designed to carry on this Subornation, which is the last of many monstrous, and horrible cheats he hath committed, controled and contracted this many years in *England*. But of this particular, you shall hear more at large in the ensuing part of this Treatise. And now I must come to hint of his two Confederates, who

are my Acquaintance, and of the said two I do intend to treat, who thought to invest themselves, with a pretended Coat of Loyalty, to his Sacred Majesty of Great Britain, France, and Ireland; But the said Coat being but a second-hand one, and bare-thread worn, and the Colour of it being Black, and as the nature of the colour Black is to wear, or rot away, sooner than any other Colour shall, by reason that it is too much boyled in the dying. But I shall not insist to give an accompt of a Trade that I have no more skill in, than the above three Gentlemen had in choosing such a rotten Garb, which wore out so soon, and tore so unexpectedly, that the rent appeared so strangely, as that soon their Nakedness were espyed and discovered, which more plainly to let you understand it, their Knavery, and Subornation, was descryed: and as it is thought, afterwards may ensue, that their Iniquity shall not pass uncorrected; But now in the Interim, notwithstanding their great dependency, upon the mainest supporters of Subornation, as that we see, for all the Combination of the Pope and the Devil; their Iniquity shall be brought to light to their shame and Confusion. So as that they will be glad, to make them Aprons of Figtree Leaves, to hide the iniquity and wickedness of their sinful devilish and malicious undertakings, which to my understanding, I cannot term it better; for whoever he or they be, that are led away by the wicked instigation of Satan, are hired or bribed to take false Oaths, and bind themselves in Covenant with the Devil, irrevocably, and that in as much as they will ransack their Consciences, and make a shipwreck of them, as these three Suborners have done, though indeed I must confess they were put on, so to do, by the Counfounders of Christianity, Religion, Godliness, Holiness, and Piety, and all other Christian Laws, and Governments, to use all means whatsoever with a general Indulgence, for so doing, for to Confound the King, the Church, Government, and Kingdoms of these three Nations, expecting that this late most Abominable and Horrible Plot, should be placed as a perpetual stain, over the heads of Protestants. The proposals of the which Contrivance, being thus; That if the said three Suborners, could
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or would, whether right or wrong, take their Oaths, that they knew such Contracts, in the Writings, of the chiefest and strongest Evidences the King hath, as that what they several times deposed upon Oath, and manifestly proved in such a through and Emphatical manner, as that all Persons of whatsoever Degree, Dignity, or Quality, durst not nor will scruple, (that is to say, such as are endued with common Sense, Reason, or Understanding) but the said Evidences of the King, spoke nothing but real and manifest truth, in what they have declared or deposed as to the proof of the Plot. But the Ancient antipathy and Malice of *Rome*, is still bent and ever will be, during the Reign of the Romans to do all the mischief to the Protestant Religion and Government, to the utmost of their power, and to this end they thought to make themselves more drunk with the Cup of Abomination, and then to vomit it out upon the heads of English, Irish, and Scottish Protestants; when they seeing that the Lord was pleased to break the Vail that covered and hid their intolerable wickedness, and let their shameful deeds be seen in and through the World. But they who much may be compared to the Magicians of *Egypt*, as often as *Moses* through and by the power of God, turned the Rod to several vivificant or lively Postures of twelve Creatures, so the Egyptian Magicians by the Power of the Devil, worked a formal resemblance to that which the man of God, and by his power Acted, which thus implies, that as the Lord was pleased to discover to let the people of *England*, see the malicious naked Sword of *Rome*, that was ready to cut their Throats: so the Popish party on the other hand, with their Magical Spells of Money, thought to raise such perverse, perjured Suborners, for to swear that the Plot was first contrived and hatched by the Protestant Party, upon the which Sound of the Magick Money Art, the above mentioned Captain *Elie*, *Sympson Tongue*, and *John Crawley*, contrived together, and thought it a great prey, and cryed one to another, Come let us go to the Popish Party and swear three Oaths, That Doctor *Tonge*, Doctor *Oats*, Captain *Bedloe*, &c. were the first Contrivers of the Popish Plot, and that they have so contrived it, as that they made the King averse against his

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Subjects,

Subjects, and expells some of them into forreign Countries; banisht some of them that were in great Favour at Court, and deprived them of the privilege of bearing Office or Commission of Magistracy under him within his Jurisdiction, or Dominions, I say, as to the said Suborners, that their Hands were greased, and their Lips anoynted for to exclaim against the King's Evidences, in hopes they may procure more people to compact with them in Perjury, and Subornation, and they would share with them in what moneys they could receive upon that account. I have given you thus far an account of the Subornation of these three Persons, and now I will let you understand what three Persons they are, their Intents, Designs, and Purposes, as I have promised in the beginning of my foregoing lines. That Captain *Elie*, who was the Chiefest Ringleader of the other two, is frequently termed a great States-man, and a Jesuitical Contriver, which may very well be seen in the Method he took to manage his Business, when he went about to raise a Company of Suborned Witnesses, to serve the Devil against his King, as I shall let you more clearly see, before I bring my notes of him to a period. I will insist a little longer upon so worthy a Subject as he is, and though I am not personally acquainted with him, yet I am told some people compare him to a Kidnapper, and the reason why they compare him to so unbeseeming a Comparison, is this, because the Kidnapper, when he is about to snap up people for his purpose, he is like the Fisherman, who lays out several fair and inviting Baits, which tempts the poor innocent Fish, so that through the temptation thereof, he gives such a snap at the Bait, thinking or little suspecting to be prejudiced by that said Bait, but poor Creature, there is a hook in the Bait, that as soon as ever the fish gives a snap, and a pull, the said hook takes hold, in his Jaws, or Throat, so that the Fisherman draws him to shore, and takes his hook out of him, and puts the fish into his Basket; these said Resemblances, of Kidnapping and Fishing, in my thinking become very well Captain *Elie*, and his Jesuitical Baits of drawing, tempting, and leading poor people to Perjury and Subornation, expecting thereby, to propagate the Popish Interest,

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advance his own fortune and to seduce such as he takes, to temporal and spiritual miserie. But he being not the only Subject of my Discourse, I do intend to desist speaking any more here of him until he comes into my purpose in the next Clause. And now to come to the main of my present matter, and purpose, I have given you some small account of Captain *Elie's* Proceedings, who was the only Ringleader of this mischievous Contrivance of Subornation, who also was the Captain of *Sympson Tonge*, who is a man of a great esteem of himself, and thinks himself to be a man of competent Knowledge, Capacity, and Worth, and for my part thus far I have to say of him, in those my following lines, that if he had but money enough, as he expected that Captain *Elie* would procure for him, I am certain he would allow the Ladies of Honour a Glas of the best Wine, a Dose of Physick, and a good Allarm when they are drinking of the Wine, which he thought, or at least expected he could have been always able to maintain, by his being one of the above mentioned hirelings, or Suborners of the black Coat : but poor man ! he is sadly disappointed, and irrecoverably frustrated. For instead of their pretended carrying on the work of Subornation, and the wearing of the Black Coat, whereby he expected to be able to keep a Coach, and six Horses, and likewise he expected to occasion the King's Evidences to be trodden under foot, and the Parliament and Council, to be counted ridiculous and foolish, and the Laws of the Nation to be unjust and unrighteous, which thus the said Evidences proposed to themselves, that if they could get the King's Evidences Countermanded, and Counterpoised, and by the same get them invalidated ; all the neighbouring Princes and People in *Europe*, would cry shame upon the people of *England* and their Laws and Government, how unjustly they execute their Subjects, without any certain foundation or well-grounded Reason for so doing. Nay it would be a perpetual blemish upon the head of *England*, until Dooms-day : I say, this was the intended design, and purpose, of these Suborners, to see whether they could baffle the King out of his Judgment, contradict the Lords of both Parliament and Council in their Knowledge and Understanding,

derstanding, and so blemish the Laws of *England* for ever. But as I have promised to hint further of *Sympson Tonge*, I must needs confess he had another reserved aim in the purpose of his Subornation, as I shall let you see when it comes to my purpose, and in the interim I shall only hint his Torn black Coat, in the which he thought to wrap himself up from the Reproaches and Scandals that he purchased for himself, for his Confederacy, Combination, and Contrivance; with his so called Noble Captain *Elie*, and his Cousen *John Crawley*; having wrapt himself as aforesaid, so closely, narrowly, and roundly into the Cloak, that it tore away; and the rent was so wide, and he being in company with his Ladies of Honour who discovered his Nakedness, and then cryed away with him, he is clap'd, he hath got no Money, let him come here no more, and they also cryed to him in a Laughter and a Table-talk, you had better go to Madam *Cellier* who is a good Midwife, and hath skill in Chirurgery, who also if she gets it her self will convey it to another, by reason of her converse with the people over whom you thought to spread the black Cloak, whom also for some time you fed with Fancy and Conceit of your great Works, when you expected to cast over the blame of the Popish Plot, when your Father, Doctor *Oates*, and the rest of the King's Evidences, and thereby bear the popish Party spotless, and blameless, which indeed if you could do, I must acknowledge you would be a happy man, and they a happy people both as to the state of their Bodies and Souls.

For they have got so deep into the Mire of it, that they cannot so soon be rid of it, for if it had been as false as it is true, and that they were as Innocent as they were Guilty, I am certain wherever he be that could clear them, would make himself a happy man, and them a happy people, as to the view of the World; But not before God, for it is said in Scripture, *Non demittitur peccatum, nisi restituatur oblatum*; But not that I am about to Preach to you, nor to hinder such a man as this man *Sympson Tonge* is, who promised to bring truth to light, but instead of so doing he hath brought falsehood under the cover of his old Black Cloak, but as the
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Lord will have it, he prevented his false Designs, and turned him and them into a rejection and disdain in the esteem of any Rational People, and thus he cheated himself and deprived himself of the privilege he might have obtained in the natural affection and love that he might have been still partaker of, but let him see what it is for a man to forfeit certainty for uncertainty, and when he thoroughly, and perspicuously looks into it, he may as well say to his two former Confederates Captain *Elie* and *Crawley*; as he said to the women when they beheld his Nakedness, and discovered his *Venus* Disease, as he cryed, Alas they cheated me! But judge you, what it's to build a Tower of Defence upon the words of a treacherous Villain, and therein to confide, as *Sympson Tonge* trusted confidently in the fair promises and sweet words of Captain *Elie*, when he first deluded him, and next, judge what it is to build a Paradise, with Kisses, Wine, and Money, in a womans Bosom, the which three materials, are as stedfast as he is treacherous: I will direct you, to learn the uncertainty of these two Comparisons, of him who most tryed to his woeful experience the event of such matters, and the next thing it is how much this poor man hath to bemoan and bewail his wretched and desperate Condition. I Instance you this simile, as much as it had been from his own mouth, what it is to begin to love Women so soon as he did, and that in such a measure, as that he would run any hazard to enjoy it. And seeing that he could not enjoy it, not half to his lascivious desire, by reason that he had not money enough, his Means being but small, whereupon he thought it his only and nearest way to procure money and accomplish his desire, to play a Game at Sice-Ace, or Tick-tack, with the Pope and his Party: and I would wish with all my heart, that the Knave could win one thousand pound of the Pope; but hang the Pope, he is a Serpent-like Dog, he is so crafty, and subtile, and covetous, as that in so short a time as *Sympson* had to do with him, it is impossible to pump so much money out of him; but I must needs confess, as I find *Sympson* was ever unlucky, if he were wise he might have cheated the Pope; for he is an old blind Cuckold, and cannot

well see, nor ever did, nor ever shall as long as he continues in his devillish Superstition and Idolatry, but I must kick by the Pope a while and take another dish of discourse with *Sympson Tonge*, which is this, that I must tell him as I find several well grounded, solid, and learned men, unanimously to agree upon this opinion, that there is a decretal lett, decreed for a man in his life time in this World, the which lots and decrees are manifold and sundry-fold, and every man hath his proper decree, or lot, whatsoever it be good or bad he cannot avoid it, which is to say, by the very observation of the Firmaments, as is commonly observed by the Mathematicians, and Astrologians, as thus, if a man be born under a twopenny Planet, he will never be worth a Groat in his life time. I do not intend, to trespass upon your patience, with the circumspective Observations that those words would require to be traced in, for I suppose you would say, it had been too tedious so to do; and in another place, it is anciently observed by the afore old Arts-men, viz. Mathematicians, and Astrologians, that if a man be born to be hanged all the world cannot prevent it, or save him, and I doubt very much if Mr. *Sympson Tonge* escapes either the one or the other, of the said decrees, or lots; not that I trust, or give credit to any such Observation, but by his own very Carriage, and by the dreadful view I have of his most monstrous Enormities; And now seeing that I undertook to treat of one more of his other two Confederates in Knavery, and Subornation, I do intend to begin where I left off; Having given you an account already of their Names, Conditions, and expected Commissions, their conditions you must of necessity conclude with me, that it must be some Great Orator, that is able to define their said malicious, perverse, and wicked Conditions, and I must leave it in the mean while to your own prudent Judgment, what condition such Audacious, Contumelious, and perverse Rogues can be endured with, who went about to contradict the Eminent and Great Wisdom that the most of the Peers of *England* are endued with, who sit both in Parliament and Concel. Nay furthermore, they went about to outface the Great and Dread Sovereign of the three Nations,

tions, who was by strength of reason, and undeniable Evidences convinced and satisfied, that there was nothing surer, under the Godhead, than that there was a real Plot in agitation against him by the popish Party, and as to their respected Commissions, if the Black old worn Coat had endured a little longer ; But it was too threadbare before they got it that they could do no good with it : but every one of them as to his respective Commission, whereupon they relyed the future welfare of their being , As for *Elie* he should have been the second General *Monk*, or the second Chancellour *Hyde* ; And as for *Sympson Tonge*, he expected to be Bishop of *Canterbury*, or of some other great Archiepiscopacy , at the next vacancy ; And as for *John Crawley*, he expected to be a great Officer, at least a Captain of a Man of War, or a Captain of the King's Life-Guard. Whereof all their three ambitious Designs and wished for desires, were grievously disappointed , and frustrated. Such disappointment , had been most suitable to all such perverse Perjurers, and Suborners, (as I suppose,) the Event of the Progress will be no better than what I term it. Though at their first growth they may grow up with a visible possibility of continuing in the same manner that they grow in, but it is very remarkably observed, that all sorts of Grains, Trees, or Leaves, or any thing that grows, that soonest, and unexpectedly yields a fragrant Blossom, but it is concluded all such as yield their Blossoms before their natural time , they fade and wither away, so that there comes no fruit of their Blossoms ; which I verily believe, will prove the same with these three upstartred Imps, in whose proceedings they only glory themselves, and upon their boughs they beheld very comfortable Blossoms, whereof they did much glory and rejoyce, but when it came to the time of Fruit, they yielded none , but their Blossoms withered away before they came into any maturity ; and they themselves, remain like three wetherbeaten old Stumps, without either fruit, happiness, or good success in their undertakings, which is what we expected when first we heard of their proceedings. You may see, the event of Iniquity is commonly Destruction, and Ruine, incident to the Workers thereof ; and I do not

question, but it will be the event of these three discontented Suborners, to fall ten degrees lower than ever they were, for they are not favoured neither on the one side nor on the other, but of all sides they are dejected, rejected, undervalued, and disdained, so that I can compare them to no better similitude, than they are like three mad Dogs, who after falling mad, run away from their master, every body cries, kill them ! they are mad ! which is the same in course with Captain *Elie*, *Simpson Tonge*, and *John Crawley*, three who thought themselves merry men ; I suppose they have no such pleasure in their mirth now, but that I dare say they would give it in exchange for mine. And I leave them to what they enjoy, and to that indeed that may lead them to repentance.

Now having completed their several Styles, and Titles, their Aims, Designs, Intents, and Purposes, and having also given an account what they expected to benefit themselves by their kindling of their Subornation, which I am certain they could not so confidently propose to themselves, without the Promises, Supportations, and Assistance, of some great People. But seeing we have not, (as yet,) any sufficient grounds of Reason, to build our suspicion upon any particular Persons, to be concerned in the raising of such Suborners, we will only thus conclude, and so rest silent, until the Lord, (who hath seen and knows their Iniquity) may be pleased to discover them, and their mischievous Proceedings, and Designs ; as he hath been graciously pleased with his powerful hand, to protect these Kingdoms, and to discover all Mischiefs, and malicious Contrivances and Conivances, that were like to fall upon them by the Contracts of evil People ; And for his Protection, Guidance, Shelter, and Direction, which he hath many a time been graciously pleased to shew these Nations, we desire to render unto him, the Praises, the Glory, the Honour, and Renown, both now and for ever.

I must hint once more at *Sympson Tonge*, who as he is taken notice of, is very well known to be one that loved best, and chieflyest preferred the love of strange women, beyond the love of his natural Parents, which is a Quality,
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was very much discerned and beheld in him, since he came to the knowledge of good and Evil ; Which is a very remarkable, manifest, and inspectious Demonstration, of the want of Grace in any Child, to prefer any worldly pleasure beyond the love of his Parents, the which want of natural love is discerned to inhabit in the breast of the said *Simpson Tonge*. Which his Father having thoroughly read, by his Carriage, and natural Inclination, and accordingly, by all the means possible he could, watcht how his said Son spent his time, in what Company, and in what Exercise, he most delighted : and the manner of spending his time, and what little Money he could scrape of his Father and Uncle, he spent it in the Company of Women, as far as it reach'd. But his Purse falling short, and weak, he could not thereby purchase any womens Company keeping, so that he understanding he could no longer frequent their Society, but instead of so doing, he lighted on a company of scurrilous fellows, that would Drink, Sing, and Smoak with him, (for he himself is an indefatigable Smoaker,) there is no kind of Liquors that come amiss in his Dish whatsoever, the more he drinks the more he would, the longer he sits the longer he would. So that Singing, Drinking and womens Company keeping, (if he could be his own Carver) would be his delight all his life time. And if I write here more, as to the Description of his Inclinations, than what you may be apt to believe, of these my Descriptions of this Gentleman, if you be so concerned, and that your fancy may lead you, to enquire, whether those my Descriptions of him, and his worldly Delights and Pleasures : you may then if you please, enquire of those that are longer acquainted, and nearer related to him, than I am. Who I am certain, if they lay by Impartiality, and declare of him, what their Conscience leads them to, will confirm what I herein write, or declare of my knowledge of this man, to be real truth, in most or all the particulars of his Life and Conversation, that I have undertaken to give an account of. Nay I will say moreover, if they were examined and put to their Oath, if they were really led by their Conscience, whether or not they know these things to be true that I write in this Paper,

and that if they do not forswear themselves, they will confirm what I say herein. It is very well known that he hath been cured of the Disease called the *Venus* Disease, or that which is found in *Venus* Garden, and his Father payed for his Cure several times, and also Chastised him with such Fatherly Correction, for his several and manifold Debaucheries, Drunkenness, and Whoredoms, every time that he could trace him in it. But he getting in favour with his Fathers Acquaintance, and Servants, as that the tenth part of his Enormities, and wicked Relapses, were not brought to his Fathers knowledge, so that most of them passed without Correction; and when his Father (to his great Grief) understood that his unhappy Son was so overpowered with the Works of Satan, and so filled and overwhelmed with such Gross, Horrible, and Abominable Enormities, and Relapses, he with many Sobs, and Sighs, determined to cloud his Countenance from him for some small time, which he was forced to make use of such Notions for his said Sons Castigations several times, and that to the end that he might understand how much the Lord abhors Sin, and how grievous it would be to his Father to see his Son run headlong in Apostacy against God, and in Disobedience against his Father. And upon the other hand again, that he may understand what Peace, Pleasure, and sundry other advantagious Comforts and Consolations it is, to the Soul and Body, to be in peace with God, and in the dutiful Obedience that Children owe to Parents, and whilst they keep that peace with God, and that loving natural Obedience they owe to their Parents, the Lord will shield them from all or most other Temptations of the Devil, and that in such Measure, as that the Devil shall never have power over such obedient Children, as by their Disobedience to God, and their Parents, they purchase him to have over them. O alas! then how shall it be with that Child? who for the small Lucre of a filthy Gain of Money, will not only be contented of a Revenge against his Father, would not be satisfied to discontent and displease him many a time, but must needs use all the means he could to take away his Fathers Life, And that by taking false Oath, and complied with others so to do?

do? which indeed, will go very near to be accomplished by him and his Confederates, if Perjury and Subornation, if likewise the Amity betwixt the Pope and the Devil, would be taken any notice of by the Administers of the Law of this Nation; But as we have reason to bless God, and pray for the well and long Rule and Reign of our King, and the continuance of our Good Laws, which I hope, may at long run, take to consideration the monstrous and unhumane Iniquity and Wickedness of these said three Suborners, and handle them as their great Transgressions shall require. Who went about to cloud the Nation with an Aspersion of innocent Bloodshedding, which questionless would be done through the means of the said Suborners, had it not been prevented by the divine Providence, and an hundred more clear Manifestations and truer Demonstrations, than ever they (with all their Subornations) shall be able, Emphatically, and Efficaciously to contradict. Though indeed I must confess, that if the Case stood so sted fast on their side, as they are grounded in Lies, and Falsehood, it would do very well with them; They have related up and down the Town, amongst their Whores, and Holes, or (at least *Simpson Tonge* hath) that the King received him with a great deal of Honour, Respect, and Credit, Embraced him in his Arms, placed him upon a Couch hard by him; which is but one of his Lies, (although a most false and incredible Story) it is to any Persons that have competent Judgment, that the King would harbour with so great a Reception such a shitten School-Boy, who never attained to such Knowledge, or Worth, as to be esteemed a Favourite by our Great Monarch, as he most falsly and audaciously affirms he hath been. Which I state here, as an instance unto you, that you may judge whether or no he that would tell such an abominable and an unprofitable Lye for nothing, would tell a more Hainous (though this is very Hainous) for his Expectation of being made Bishop of the next vacant Bishoprick. I infer this to this Effect, that if the Credit, Reputation, Honour, and Safety of these three Nations, upon such a rotten Foundation as these three Persons are, who will stick no more to Truth nor stumble no more at telling a Lye, then they will to kiss

their Whores, when their Lusts most burn them, or drink their Liquor when they are most desirous to be Drunk, the which desire (in them) is never wanting.

Having shown this one instance, of the insufficiency and unlawfulness of such Evidences, to be taken in less importances and Consequences than the welfare of these three Nations, I expect this Paper may come into some bodies hands whose good and knowing Inclination may lead them to construe well of this my inference. As also, of another that I shall place after it, which is this, that I would desire to know, whether or not it is lawful for a man, who takes upon himself to be an Evidence in Matters of State, nay in any manner of Case in whatsoever Evidences are required? when he or they undertakes to carry on and stand by as Evidences, for to maintain such Cases, as he proposes or promises to do, and having so promised, afterwards to go with his purse of Money to bribe people, as I shall hereafter prove, that the said *Sympson Tonge* and Captain *Elie*, have given fourty shillings in money to a Woman, who was Housekeeper to Doctor *Tonge*; And afterwards they offered her three pounds more, upon Condition she would declare and take upon Oath what they would have her do, as to the placing of the first Offspring and beginning of the Popish Plott, upon the heads of Doctor *Tonge*, Doctor *Oates*, &c. and if she would yield to take the said Oath, she should be preferred to any preferment whatsoever she would desire. From this Instance I infer, that seeing motions of Bribery and Ambition of Exaltation, is much made use of by the foresaid Persons, for to raise suborned Witnesses, which I suppose when you take it into Consideration, you will judge the Promoters of this said Subornation, should not nor must not be received as Evidences for the King, or any State-Matter, nay you must of necessity grant, that it is abominable to suffer any such Bribe-hatchers to speak in this behalf; for I am certain if it be so now in *England*, that the Evidence of such people is received as Material and Collateral, it hath not been so in old times, and the Laws are as good now as ever they were, if Suborners could be kept at distance, which if not it is not safe for an honest man to live in his own Countrey. For he doth not know
who

who to trust to, whereas Bribes and pitiful ones, leads away the Son falsely, and treacherously, to betray his Father, And all that in hopes and Ambition of a little Preferment. Which consideration when you read this will shew you the unlawfulness of such Persons, who would not stumble to cut your Throats for their own Interest. I pray therefore, beware of Wolves in Sheeps-Cloathing. For I am sure, these three persons of Subornation can be compared to no better thing.

Now having shewn you these persons Condition, that is to say, two of them with whom I was chiefest acquainted, how and in what manner they lived, only I left off giving an account of *John Crawley*, whose dependency of Livelihood, depended most and chiefly upon the Benevolence of his Acquaintance here in Town, his Business here was upon pretence of learning the Law, and for ought I know, he may learn his belly full of it, and that in such measure as that if you will give him rope enough he will hang himself: he is an Irishman by his Countrey, he is a man of a very loose Life and Conversation, he is a great Whoremaster, mighty debauch'd in all Exercises, a great Curser, Swearer and Drinker: mighty forgetful of the natural Course of Temperance and Modesty, I speak nothing but what might be proved, therefore in as much as I have in short shewn you, the Lives, Conversations, and the distressed and destitute Condition, of these two of whom I promised in the foregoing part of this Relation to give you an account of; whose demerited distress, by reason of their Debauchery, and evil course of Life led them to be tempted by Captain *Elie's* Moneys, which when you thoroughly weigh and consider, the rate they led their lives in, you will and must of necessity grant, that there is but little or no trust to be confided on the Words or Oaths of such debauch'd and lewd Livers, from whence I shall infer the unlawfulness of their Evidences; But I shall cease of so doing, until I give a further account of Doctor *Tonge's* Son: of whom I have to say that he or whoever, that goes about to betray his own Parents, which is contrary to the Precept and Commandment of God so to do, that I guess, Reason may guide any rational Christi-

an, to place the less trust or Confidence in him, for he who-
 ever he be that would be so soon led away, and so easily
 perswaded by the World, the Flesh and the Devil, to coun-
 terpose his dear and good Father, who is known to be a
 worthy and a reverend Man, and a good and loyal Subject,
 true and trusty to his King and Countrey, upon the which
 account he hath spent all his Estate, to defend, maintain and
 propagate the King, Church and Government Interest in
 these three Nations, to the utmost, and beyond his power,
 Capacity, and Ability; and when this moderate, learned and
 discreet man, could not with safe Conscience, neither his
 Stock, nor his Estate was able to maintain the inordinate
 and riotous Desires and Designs of his Son, but according
 to his Capacity, allowed him competently as he thought fit
 or necessary for him. But his Son being not therewith con-
 tented, nor satisfied, as he was ever unſatiable; he betook
 him to a serious Consideration, which way he should be re-
 venged of his Father, for cutting short his former and ac-
 customed Allowance of Maintenance and Subsistence. And
 thereupon after some premeditation and deliberation of time,
 he rushes forth into these Exclamations against his Father,
 and said, come hang it (thought he) I will be thus reveng-
 ed on him, I will raise a measure of the dust and Street-
 sweepings of *Rome* about his Ears and Eyes; And there-
 with I shall stifle and blind him, and thereupon after having
 resolutely determined to be thus revenged of his Father, and
 nothing wanting to his power to prejudice both his Father
 and the Countrey, but the next opportunity that may an-
 swer to that Effect. Having within a small time afterwards
 met with an elderly man, whose name was Mr. *Lane*, whose
 Son served Doctor *Oates*, and afterwards for some Misde-
 meanors, that he had committed against Doctor *Oates*, was
 sentenced by course of Law to stand in the Pillory. This
 said old *Lane* and *Sympson Tonge* had entred into discourse
 (*Sympson Tonge*, who never was backward to prate and talk
 to every body, as well unacquainted as acquainted) the old
 man understanding by him, that he was inclined to cast op-
 probrious Aspersions upon Doctor *Tonge* and Doctor *Oates*, as
 he's seen by his disturbed and discontented Mind, and by
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the Relation he gave him of his Father and Doctor *Oates*, and thereupon made answer unto him ; if that you prove trusty to me, and the Trust you say you will take in hand, I will put you in a way to be revenged upon your Father for his Cruelty and Hardheartedness unto you, and also to be revenged on Doctor *Oates*, who was so Tyrannical towards my poor Son, who served him for some time ; If you will therefore draw up in Writing what you know of your Father's Privacies and Secrets, and accordingly Countermand them, as I am certain you are able to do ; being a Son to Doctor *Tonge*, and a Schollar, and do it Efficaciously and Materially, and having so done, or at least drawn up the common Heads of what you intend to Evidence against Doctor *Tonge*, Doctor *Oates*, Captain *Bedloe*, and the rest of the Discoverers of the Plot. And I shall find a trusty and honest Gentleman, unto whom wholly and totally you may impart the summary Substance of what you intend to maintain against them, and the said Gentleman will advise and direct you in the best way and manner, how to bring your business emphatically about. He is a Gentleman that desires the Propagation of the Church of *Rome*, his name is Captain *Elie*, he can bring you and your Writings to the acquaintance of the King, the Duke of *York*, and several great Lords about *Whitehal*, and the Lords in the *Tower* : through whose Acquaintance and Knowledge, you will meet with the occasion or means, to be recompensed some degrees beyond any that were the King's Evidences in the Discovery of this Plot, nay you shall be of greater Esteem and more Famous, and your Name higher extoll'd than your Father was, or would be, if he had been Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, and there are many of the Lords (that I told you) both at *Whitehal* and the *Tower*, that will recompense you to your hearts desire and content ; Upon the which welcomed and great terms, both these persons gladly entred into a banquet of incomparable Conceits and Expectations, they so fed themselves with such pleasant hopes, of being revenged of their Enemies, and accomplishing their hearts desire, with great Treasures of Silver and Gold, the which Treasure they thought would suffice to maintain their Ambition, during the rest of their

days, together with the Esteem and Affection, they would daily receive, of the Favourites of *Rome*, which might have been enough to maintain their Pomp all their lifetime.

And they having so thorowly discoursed the Business amongst themselves, so that to the end they should not delay no time nor let slip an opportunity, the said Mr. *Lane* betakes himself to Captain *Elie's* Chamber, where after some small waiting there, he met with him, and he gave him a full and true account of what Doctor *Tonge* his Son unfolded unto him at his house, where also he waited to give Captain *Elie* a full and summary account, of what he thought or expected to make out concerning the carriage of the Plot, by and between Doctor *Tonge*, Doctor *Oates*, Mr. *Bedloe*, &c.

Upon the which Relation of Mr. *Lanes* to Captain *Elie*, Immediately Captain *Elie* repairs with all Expedition possible he could, unto this said *Lane* his house, where he met with *Sympson Tonge*, after having information in what Room he was, having also offered some Salutations the one to the other, The Captain said Sr. I presume that you are the Person, the man of the house (naming *Lane*) hath informed me of, he also told me that you had a desire to speak with me. Sr. said *Sympson Tonge* I have discoursed with the man of whom you now speak. Sr. (said Captain *Elie*) would you be pleased to tell me what may be your occasion with me. Yes, (says he) if you will be pleased to tell me your name. Sr. (said he) they call me by the name of Captain *Elie*, and then *Sympson Tonge* (replying) you are the Gentleman that I desire to see, and then having after some small circumstances, entred throughly and deeply into one anothers acquaintance, and accordingly *Sympson Tonge* discoursed with Captain *Elie* the total and whole substance of what he designed and intended to proceed against his Father, Doctor *Oates*, and the rest of the King's Evidences. The which Relation, and account of *Sympson Tonge*, relished and tasted with the Palate of Captain *Elie*, as sweet as if every word had been overflowing with honey; whereupon he replied, Sr. I perceive your present Condition may be bare, and therefore I shall suddenly procure you some relief of Money, which
I per-

I perceive you may have occasion of at present. The which free offer of Captain *Elie*, pleased very well *Sympson Tonge*. That being the progress of their first Discourse, they departed very satisfactorily contented the one with the other, for their first meeting, and from that time forth they had more frequent resort to one anothers Company. So that Captain *Elie* procured as he promised, a recruit of Money for *Sympson Tonge*. Now having given you an account of the first Offspring of this Subornation betwixt these two fore-mentioned Persons, who thought fit to find out a third Sup-
porter, to hold up the Brandiron upon which stands their Brewing-pan; whereupon *Sympson Tonge* met with an old Confederate of his, in whose Company oftentimes he bestowed many kisses to his Ladies of Honour, as is mentioned in the foregoing part of this Treatise, the Which Confederates name was *John Crawley*, who I told you was one of the three that wore the black Garb, with Captain *Elie* and *Sympson Tonge*, of whose Proceedings, Designs, Lives and Conversations, I have given you as large an Account as I thought fit to trespass your patience with the reading or hearing of such unworthy Transactions, heinous Offences, against God and Man, and treacherous relapses of a Son against his Father; and my design in giving you the trouble of understanding these particulars herein mentioned, was to let you understand that I do expect your Reason and Understanding will lead you to grant me undeniably, when you read and consider the total course and whole passages of these three Suborners, and also when you understand to what intent and purpose they designed their Undertakings, in this their work of Subornation, that they should not, nor ought not, be received, or accepted, but as they are, and as they may be properly called, Perjurers, If it may be read in their course of Life, which is all the instances we can show for their Insufficiency of being received as Witnesses, in Matters of State, and all that I have to say, is to pray that the Lord may keep you from such deluding Instruments, Fare-
wel.

And all that I determine to treat of, as to this my present purpose, or relation of these three self-designed and in-

teressed Persons, as they are termed, and mentioned generally and severally in the foregoing part of this my account of them, so that I judge it both mine, yours, and all other Christians Duty, and not only our Duty, but we should make it our Care and Business, to pray earnestly and diligently to the Lord, That he may be graciously pleased to extend unto us, a handful of his Great Mercy, and with his accustomed Clemency, Consideration and Pity, lodge us under the Shadow and Shelter of his Wings, and there that we may dwell under his Tuition, Direction, and Protection, where we might be safely secure, from the Claws and Clutches of such ambitious and hungry people, as these or any such other self-designed Persons are, of whose Ambition, self-Interest, and Want, I have already given what account I think to handle at present.

And now I shall only let you see, how and in what measure the Lord is pleased to order the inordinate and unlawful Designs, Intents and Purposes, and how he thinks fit to repay them with the self and same Allowance, as he did repay *Cain*, *Esau*, and *Judas*, The which three Persons were led as we read in the holy Scriptures, by their ambitious Pride, vain Glory, and unsatiable Desires, and intended to purchase such Interests, as would render them every one as his Inclination was, whether for lucre of Gain, Ambition and Pride, Envy and Malice: which you may read in *Cain's* History, of his destroying his Brother, as to one of those three respective Particulars, that I herein instance. The next of *Esau*, whose aim was to be his Fathers Heir, and to have his ample Succession, in the enjoyment of the plenty of the Flocks, of his Father *Isaac*, and for the purchasing the same, he thought to use all means possible, to accomplish what he aimed at, which indeed, answered his Expectations, in many or most Respects. And *Judas* of whose Treacherous Design was the third and last Instance, of my present Treatise, as I mention them, *Cain*, *Esau*, and *Judas*. The which three persons were led, (as we read in our Recourse of the holy Scriptures) by their Ambition, Pride and unsatiable Desires, as it is most manifestly seen, if you look through their Conditions, The one of them intended to propagate such
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an Interest, as would render him and his Successors Famous and Eminent through most Generations. The second, for the sake of a Prerogative, which he expected to obtain, if he could but play his Cards, as he proposed several times to himself so to do, but at last to his everlasting woe failed him. And the third, for the sake of a small filthy Lucre, and also Envy and Malice; and also every one of the said three Apostates, having his particular Design, Intent and Purpose, in his Hainous and wicked Relapse, and abominable Apostacy, thought to Conquer all Obstacles, Interruptions, or Obstructions, that stood in his way, and hindred him of enjoying his unlawful Wishes, and having so conquered them, he expected thereby to Crown himself in the Throne of his ambitious Aim or Usurpation. The which indeed I may say, was the main of all their designed Interests, of them that combined with them in their said Undertakings. You may be pleased to see and thoroughly view and consider, in what height and measure of Estimation, Ambition is harboured in the Bosom of some or great many persons of these times. And to let you see more plainly, to the end that you may be pleased to take notice of the several and sundry Inconveniences, that ambitious, covetous and envious Persons are made subject to, by reason that they leap before they see, so that by their unadvised Undertakings, they fall into several Laborynths and Snares of Inconveniences, and that instead of being made partakers of what they aim at, they are frustrated and deprived of their Expectations, and they are also rebuked, reprov'd and reproached in the Opinion and Judgment of the most discreet, solid and wise men; which I shall let you see is the Event and Fruit of these three mentioned Persons, that I took in hand to speak of, in this my account to you of them.

And now you may see, the antient Root of Ambition and Malice, which sprung, and proceeded from our Predecessors, in the former Ages, may be very well in many respects compared to this present passage, that I presume you are thoroughly acquainted with, of Captain *Elie*, *Sympson Tonge*, and *John Crawley*, for every one of these three pre-

sent Persons, had their particular Aims and Designs, to propagate their particular Interests, but woe be to them, they are by divine Providence most shamefully and reproachfully disappointed as you shall read in the following lines.

For as the Lord is not pleased to suffer such Abominations as those persons proposed to themselves, to maintain and go through with, without Reprehensions, Reproofs and Reproaches, and that in a scandalous and ridiculous Manner, as indeed the Guilt and the Crime of their Undertakings doth require Punishment, which I do not question, but they may receive it after their own measure; neither doth the Lord think fit, to see his Anointed, viz. the Great King of these three Nations, together with the Subjects and Ministers of Law, Equity and Justice; to be perpetually spotted and blemished, by the Enemies of the Government of this Land. Who in general are incomprehensible, but it is generally and assuredly grounded upon the Chickens, that are hatched in the Hutch of Rome, which you nor no other person can deny: if he be either a Closet-Reader, or a Traveller, but that it is the daily study of the said Chickens, and both their Male and Female-Dame, to cast all the Enormities and scandalous Reproaches, they possibly can invent and forge, upon the Reputation of Protestants, as I could instance several satisfactory Instances and Examples, to the said effect. But I designed to handle it in another Paper, that I intend to let you see more at large, what I have seen, heard, and understood, how and in what manner and measure the Popish Party, under whose wings I have been hatched for all my lifetime until the beginning of July 1679, that I Renounced them by the Direction and Tuition of God, being led so to do as you shall read in my next opportunity. And to hint where I left off in the foregoing words of the Design of *Elie*, *Crawley*, and *Tonge*, to asperse the King, Countrey, Church and Government of these three Nations, which indeed there is many a Soul, that joynes with them in so doing, at least in their wishes, and thoughts, they would willingly assist and back them, for they could do it without being seen in it, so that they are loath otherways to be Concerned, but in their Clau-

stine

stine way, they stir up others to blow the fire, and they kin-
dle it themselves, which is a thing easily proved, if it had
been thoroughly and narrowly examined, but for my part, I
do not intend to press my Evidences to that effect upon any
man, though that I may safely say, and not only say, but
firmly aver that I have performed the duty of an honest
Subject, a zealous Christian and a loving Country-man.
And having so done as is manifestly seen that I am readier
to serve than people are to receive me, which the old Pro-
verb being performed, which is called, *Propriate Service* is
not accepted. But to hint a little more of my purpose, to
let you see as a Confirmation to your own understandings, how
this contrived Contradiction of the verity of a Plot, was
contracted by the above Persons, and I do not question but
they had many Assistants, in these their Undertakings of Ble-
mishing and Disgracing the King's Subjects, and Laws of
these three Nations, as surely they would have been made
privy to, by the Lurkers and Peepers, officious and busie Per-
sons, that lurk and peep from forth their Windows, listen-
ing and waiting whether they could hear any such Rumors
or Reports, as the contradicting and discrediting of the
Popish Plot, and upon the other hand expecting likewise,
to cast it over upon the heads of Protestants, in hopes to
clear themselves, and lay the Guilt upon them; these I say,
and such other Reports, as would relish best their Pallates
with such a savory taste, as to say that There is no Plot,
It is proved there is none, The Kings and Council are con-
vinced to the contrary of the being of any Plot in agitation
at all, and that it is but a slam; and Captain *Elie*; *Sympson*
Tonge, and *John Crawley* maintained it so to be, and therefore
he that saith there was a Plot in agitation shall not be the
better thought of. Alas! I say, this is the long wished and
languishing Desire of the Church of *Rome* and all Members
thereunto belonging; That they may hear such a general and
unanimous Contradiction of the Plot, and indeed Reason
will shew us, not to blame them in that respect; for it is no
marvail, that the People should defend their great Interest,
and keep it as pure and blameless as possible they can, but I
must say it is not for their Care of so doing, if they had ta-

ken it in an honest way, we blame them. But for their evil accustomed practises, for conniving and contracting Massacre, Murder, Rebellion upon all whosoever that contradict their Tenets, Governments or Laws; and after having so done, by their fiery Instruments of devillish Exploits, they do absolve them, and dispense with such abominable Wickedness, as hath been Recorded of them in several Ages. Which would be tedious to instance them or some of them in this and such like little pieces of Paper, by reason that the Matter doth require to be more spaciously handled than I can well at present bestow time upon. But I say we can expect no less of any people which are so manifestly proved to be Guilty and Criminal, but that they would with all their Endeavours hide their Guilts and Crimes, and employ their best Wits, how to recall the Reputation by famed Honesty and Innocence, which we see daily, that they, that is to say, the Roman Catholicks do practise and use all means whatsoever, to get themselves into a renewed Favour, and procure them the title of harmless people, but I judge that what they can do to that purpose cannot yield them such Reputation as they have lost, by their several, sundry, and manifold Connivances and Contrivances, for they are by several Authors Recorded in old Ages remarkably to be a people that continually harbour an Antipathy against Protestants, which I would let you see by several Instances, but as I have excused my self in the foregoing lines, that I must wait till another Opportunity, and expecting upon such Considerations, (which I shall thus reason unto you hereafter) and shall (in the Interim) recommend you to your own reading, in several approved Authors, which I question not, but you may be furnished with them, and if you be not you may borrow of others, who are so concerned to be curious in keeping (for the reviving of their Memory) such Books as may confirm the Truth of what I do tax Popery to be guilty of, in many Ages, Reigns, and Governments; though that the Roman Catholicks do unjustly assert, that the very first Offspring of Protestants proceeded from *Luther* and *Calvin*, in King *Henry* the Eighth's time, about one hundred and fifty years ago, Whereupon, Papists
may

may take occasion to contradict me, in claiming an Interest in the knowledge of their Error in many Ages. For they are a people that are apt to purchase all Demurrs whatsoever that they can light of quoted in any Writings against them, for I know they say that Protestants are but new upstart Apostates, and that they can claim no Rights in the Primitive Record, much less they say in the Apostolical Church-Government; and the reason they produce for that false Assertion of theirs, is this, That the Primitive Records and the Apostolical Church-Governments were established for many hundreds of years, before the Name or Government of Protestants was invented or published; yet we find we believe great many stedfast and well-grounded Authors, that Protestants were for some hundreds of years before that time that they take to be first dissenting of Protestants from the Roman Catholick Church, which I shall undertake to maintain to the Contrary on some other Occasion. And well understanding that you may be as acquainted with the truth of it as I am, I take it as one of the Reasons or Considerations, (as above mentioned) for not further satisfying you with preambled Instances at present.

The next Reason I have as to that matter of my silence, in letting you see more of the Transactions of the Popish Party is this, that I intend to make use of Opportunity; which shall be with as much Expedition as I can, to give you a larger account of their Malice against Protestants. And upon these Considerations I leave you to your thoughts of these Matters: And shall only tell you that the old Spirit of Popery and Envy, is much revived now adays, and I am afraid in this City, Suburbs, Court and Kingdom, which I could wish with all my heart, that the said City, and Country might not feel the burthen, Smart, Strength and multiplicity of the said Party. I do also pray to the Lord, that my King as his Subjects could been purged from their long burning Sedition, that they cast in between him and his Subjects; I could wish, that his Majesty could be rid of the daily troubles, he, his Parliament and Council, are daily toxicated with, by reason of the said Parties mutinous and rebellious old Satanical Disobedience, that they con-

turnaciously and contumeliously harbour and entertain for him, and his Gracious Government. And if that he could but be so clearly rid of them, as I could wish with all my Soul he were; I am certain he and all his Subjects, would be united together and they so tied to him in Loyalty as that the Splendor of their peaceable Union and Loyal Amity, would be reported and highly Commended all over the World. But in the mean while, a man cannot sleep well in a bed full of Fleas. But God grant that his Majesties Dominions may be rid of all Seditions and Insurrections, and of the Authors of them, that we may see our King and his Subjects united together as firm and stedfast as any King and Subjects of the whole Universe. The which means of their amorous Union and Injunctions we ascribe unto the Lord who is God and King over all, for to rectifie the Condition of our present State of Affairs, as shall be most acceptable in his own glorious sight and useful to my King and Country.

Now I do intend to let you understand, something of the Event of the proceedings of these three Persons, viz. Captain *Elie*, *Sympson Tonge*, and *John Crawley*, which is this, that after they buſſed the Kings Majesty, and his most Honourable Privy Council, with their composed, but ill grounded, and false Contradictions of the realty of the Popish Plot, and their buſtling being so great, as the noise of their barkings was so both abominable and terrible, as their howlings occasioned some other Helhounds to follow them, because as it is said Birds of a Feather flock together, thinking to rouse up a Dear to Chase, but instead of so doing they were forced to Chase a Fox, and the Fox being as his nature is the subtleſt of most Beasts, after having all the day made them follow him, at last when it grew late, and the Road overwhelmed with Darkness, therewithal the said Fox understanding full well his time, and his place, he whips down into his Hole, and the darkness so overwhelming, the Hunters and the Hounds strayed from both their Chase and Trace, so they were forced to retire most shamefully home to their several houses. This simile I make, and thus apply the same, in comparison of these three Hunters that thought to deceive
several

several and especially the transitory Pleasures of this World which by some Critick Authors is compared to a Fox, which no man ever deceived, neither the Fox nor the World: For in the first place, though the Fox be taken by the force of many Hounds, yet it is very well known that he is not afraid of any man; and so the World, Though men for some season Encompass, Enjoy, and take Pleasure in it, yet it is visibly seen, that it deceives more than deceive it, as I may refer my self to the Experience of these three Gentle-huntmen, of whose proceedings I gave you some account how they went about to chase themselves out of their way, so that it was very difficult for them to find out the way again. Which I question if ever they find it any more. And to hunt this Subject (called the World) which most people call their mainest and greatest Concerns, to covenant with it, and also to forfeit for a transitory being, a perpetual enjoyment, it is to be thought a great madness in them so to do, for when they assure themselves of the constant continuance of it, they are then most like to be farther from it, as you may observe in several passages of this very time, to the woful experience of these three Gentlemen, who travelled hard for it, for I am afraid that they run a dangerous hazard in hopes to gain it, and so to purchase themselves such means in it, as to make themselves merry with the Pleasures and Comfort of it. But alas! they were sadly mistaken with its subtile promises, it gave them the slip at the last. This I say is the Event and Offspring of all such that covenant with the World, it goes into its own hold, after they chase it aslong as ever they can for their lives, and they are never the wiser of all their spent labour about it. You may ask *Sympson Tonge* if I speak truth or not, who hath bought the Experience that I give you of the same Relation very dear, which I am certain if he were to buy it again at such a Price or Rate as it is like to cost him, I am confident he would Consider before he would be at half the trouble or pains that he was at. He spent his Labour, his Reputation and Credit, and forfeited the comfortable and natural Affection of his Father, in hopes to exalt himself to a greater Fortune, which you may see how short he came of what he aimed at. And I
I suppose

suppose you will let me tell you, or at least give me leave to speak what I think of the matter, he would be thoroughly satisfied and contented, not to have purchased to himself such Discords and Discontentments, as he made himself partaker of and also subject to go through, of whose proceedings I have told you already. Yesterday being examined before King and Council, and he having nothing to say for himself, but standing as a block, without much either Grace or Countenance, to answer what was imputed to his Charge, neither was he able to answer some particular Questions as were propounded to him by the King, whereupon at the Request of the Lords, the King was pleased to Order Mr. Attorney General, to prosecute the Law against him, and Captain *Elie*, for whose proceedings I have no further to shew you; but, I desire that the Lord may endue me and others with more Grace than to employ my time upon so uncertain a Foundation, and upon a clearer Conscience, than this Youth hath lived. This I say is all that I determine at present, only recommending us all to the Tuition and Protection of the Divine Deity, as also the Government of our King and Countrey, and next or lastly, I Recommend all our Concerns under the gracious keeping of God, and so *Farewel*.

F I N I S.

